

SEATAC CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

March 23, 2004

Immediately following the Special Study Session

City Hall
Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER: The SeaTac City Council Regular Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Hansen at 7:29 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Frank Hansen, Deputy Mayor Terry Anderson, Councilmembers Gene Fisher, Chris Wythe, Ralph Shape, Joe Brennan and Don DeHan.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT: Bruce Rayburn, City Manager; Judith Cary, City Clerk; Mary Mirante Bartolo; City Attorney; Mike McCarty, Finance Director; Kit Ledbetter, Parks & Recreation Director; Pat Patterson, Facilities Director; Bob Meyer, Fire Chief; and Scott Somers, Chief of Police Services.

FLAG SALUTE: The Flag Salute was conducted at the Special Study Session (SS).

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Linda Snider, 18700 36th Avenue South, stated that after listening to the presentation at the prior SS by the L&R Investment team and having attended the neighborhood meetings, she feels residents do not want a retail development on International Boulevard (IB) that they cannot access easily. They would prefer a neighborhood-friendly retail setting such as was being proposed in the City Center concept.

Joe Dixon, 19211 35th Avenue South, stated that he noticed Agenda Bill No. 2411, to be voted on in this meeting, references the Council Dinner Workshop. The Council Retreat Minutes Synopsis did not reflect that Council action.

City Attorney Mirante Bartolo stated that this agenda bill has two parts and one is regarding the deletion of the workshop on the quarterly fourth Wednesday of the month. At the February 21, 2004 Council Retreat, in discussing the Council Meetings, the Council consensus was that they did not want the scheduled workshops and to delete them from the Council Procedures.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- **Approval of claims vouchers** in the amount of \$653,522.56 for the period ended March 19, 2004.
- **Approval of employee vouchers** in the amount of \$535,151.26 for the period ended February 29, 2004.
- **Approval of employee vouchers** in the amount of \$421,421.77 for the period ended March 15, 2004.
- **Approval of summary of \$5,000 - \$25,000 purchase requests** for the period ended March 19, 2004.

Approval of the following Agenda Items recommended at the March 23, 2004 Special Study Session for placement on this Consent Agenda:

Agenda Bill #2413

A Motion authorizing the City Manager to extend the Interlocal Agreement (ILA) for Tourism and Marketing Services between City of Tukwila and the City of SeaTac until terminated

Summary: This Motion authorizes the extension of ILA No. 02-A11 with the City of Tukwila for cooperative tourism promotion, provided through Seattle Southside Visitor Services (SSVS), until terminated by either party.

In 2001, SeaTac entered into an ILA with the Tukwila to purchase professional tourism and marketing services for the purpose of increasing awareness of SeaTac as a leisure travel destination. This ILA was established for a three-year term, and is due to expire on February 1, 2005. This Motion is being brought forward at this date in compliance with a requirement in the ILA that, "On or before April 30, 2004, the Cities will determine if this ILA may be continued for another period of three years, or for such time as the parties may then see fit."

The City's Hotel/Motel (H/M) Tax Advisory Committee has reviewed the ILA and recommends that it be extended until terminated. In the committee's opinion, the termination clause is sufficiently liberal as to provide either party ample opportunity to terminate the ILA.

An annual operating budget of \$364,000 was approved for SSVS in 2004. The City Council reviews this program annually as part of the City's regular budget process.

MOVED BY BRENNAN, SECONDED BY DEHAN TO ACCEPT THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

NEW BUSINESS:

Agenda Bill #2415; Resolution #04-002

A Resolution amending Resolution No. 91-005 and the City Council Administrative Policies and Procedures setting the time of the Regular Meetings of the City Council and the date and time of the Study Sessions

Summary: On February 21, 2004, the City Council held a retreat where Councilmember DeHan led a discussion on the topic of the dates and times for the Regular Council Meeting (RCM) and the SS. The Council thoroughly discussed this issue and the majority of the Council stated that they desired a change.

Currently, pursuant to Resolution No. 91-005 and the City Council Administrative Procedures, the SS were held on the first and third Tuesday of each month, commencing at 6:00 p.m. The RCM were held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, commencing at 6:00 p.m.

This Resolution changes the SS to be held on every second and fourth Tuesday, commencing at 5:00 p.m. The RCM will still be held on every second and fourth Tuesday. However, the RCM will commence at 7:00 p.m. rather than 6:00 p.m. This Resolution will only reduce the number of days per month that the City Council and staff need to attend these meetings. However, the number of meetings per month will remain the same.

Additionally, the Council discussed Section 4(c)(3) of the City Council Administrative Procedures, which provides that an informal Council Workshop will be held on the fourth Wednesday of the last month of each calendar quarter. However, the Council has not attended these workshops for the past two years. Therefore, the Council desires to delete Section 4(c)(3) from the City Council Administrative Procedures.

City Attorney Mary Mirante Bartolo briefed on the above summary.

Councilmember Brennan stated his opposition to this agenda bill. He added that the Council should give the citizens the opportunity for input from citizens, City Council, City Manager and City staff at least on a weekly basis. He feels the proposed Council Meeting schedule will not allow for that weekly input and for the Council to keep their finger on the pulse of the City and to enact the policies of the City.

Councilmember Fisher stated that the exact reason for the proposed meeting schedule is to get more citizen participation. With most households, both adults work and do not want to come to meetings four times a month. The Council Packet with agenda and minutes included are now being display on the City's Web Page and the Council is available by phone or email daily. No meetings are being eliminated. If the proposed schedule does not work out, it can be changed back.

Deputy Mayor Anderson stated her concurrence with Councilmember Brennan. She added that Cities with full-time Mayors use the twice-a-month schedule. All Code Cities, of which SeaTac is, meet four times a month. She does not object to the Council Committee Meeting prior to the SS but disagrees with having the RCM directly following the SS. Council, staff and audience need time to process the business items and this new system does not allow for that. Also, the Citizens' Committees, all volunteers, work hard and their issues and recommendations need to be heard.

Councilmember DeHan stated that when he suggested this proposal, he did use the City of Kent as an example, which has a strong Mayor form of government. However, he feels the business of the legislator is not so much hands-on but to build policy and make laws. There is no reason an item presented at a SS has to go to the following RCM when one of the Council decides an item should be held over for two weeks for more input. He agrees with Councilmember Fisher that there will be more attendance with fewer meeting days. He suggested trying this system for three to six months and if it does not work, the current system could be reinstated.

Councilmember Wythe stated he had issues with the Council Committee Meeting having only one hour to address their agenda items. He agreed that items presented at a SS should be held over to the RCM in two weeks for more review of the issues. However, the proposed schedule would free up time to have the quarterly workshops for informal Council discussion. He added that he feels this agenda bill needs more discussion. As for eliminating the quarterly workshops, since this workshop has not been done in years, it should be eliminated out of the Council Procedures as a requirement. A workshop can be set up at any point if issues need to be discussed informally.

Mayor Hansen stated that the impression that the Council is cutting back on meetings is wrong. The Council will still have to address the same amount of City issues. The proposal is only to enact a different schedule. It is more efficient for the staff. As for the Committee Meetings, the Committee Chair can always schedule a meeting for the length of time the issues require. Ninety percent of the issues are standard or "housekeeping" items that can go right on the Consent Agenda. He feels these items should not necessarily be postponed for two weeks. He would

NEW BUSINESS (Continued):

Agenda Bill #2415; Resolution #04-002 (Continued): like the Council to give the proposed schedule a try and if it does not work, the current schedule can be reinstated. He hopes to increase the efficiency of handling business and cut down some of the staff time now required.

Councilmember Brennan stated his agreement that the approval of the purchase requests items to pay the City's bills cannot be put off. He disagrees that cutting the opportunities for citizen comments in half will encourage more citizen participation.

Councilmember Fisher added that the Council is available anytime by phone, email and in person. The Council Meeting does not allow adequate time for Council/citizen conversations. The proposed schedule will save both money and time for the City.

MOVED BY DEHAN, SECONDED BY SHAPE TO PASS RESOLUTION NO. 04-002.

UPON A ROLL CALL VOTE, MOTION CARRIED WITH FISHER, SHAPE, HANSEN AND DEHAN VOTING YES AND WYTHE, ANDERSON AND BRENNAN VOTING NO.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments.

CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS: City Manager Rayburn stated that the Joint Council/Planning Commission (PC) Meeting on the Wireless Telecommunication Facilities (WTF) is scheduled for March 30 at 3:30 p.m. followed by continued agenda discussion from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.

City Attorney Mirante Bartolo inquired as to when the Council desires to commence the new Council Meeting Schedule. City Clerk Cary stated that April 13, 2004 would be an appropriate time to commence the new schedule. Mayor Hansen agreed.

COUNCIL COMMENTS: Councilmember Fisher stated his appreciation for being able to attend the National League of Cities Conference in Washington D.C. as a member of the Public Safety Crime Prevention Policy Board. He was able to bring forth information on vehicle thefts and the leniency in punishment, sending a message that crime pays. He also attended some excellent leadership classes that were of benefit to him as a civic leader.

Upon a request from Mayor Hansen, Councilmember DeHan composed and read a rebuttal to a letter in the Highline Times newspaper which he asked to be read into the record:

March 23, 2004

Dear Mr. Mayor: (Changed to Editor)

Recent inaccurate articles, letters, comments and discussion prompted me to offer the following facts with regard to the completion of South Access:

- The City of SeaTac and the Port of Seattle (POS) have a 1997 agreement that the POS will complete the highway link from SR509 to South 188th Street (South Access).
- The cost of South Access was estimated to be \$60 million in 1998 dollars (approximately \$75 million today).
- The POS and the City of SeaTac partnered to fund a Joint Transportation Study (JTS) to determine the impact of POS traffic on the City of SeaTac surface streets.
- The JTS started with the assumption of a completed South Access.
- The POS is proposing a phased approach to completing South Access.
- The Interim South Access would use the newly completed 24th/28th Avenue South corridor.
- The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) would accommodate, in the SR509 Project, for the final South Access link to occur at a later date.
- The City of SeaTac believes that some basic assumptions on traffic patterns in the POS proposal may be flawed.
- Therefore, the City of SeaTac authorized the expenditure of \$50,000 to amend the scope of work of the JTS to determine the impact of the interim South Access on the City's surface streets.

In my opinion, comments that the City of SeaTac is a pawn of the POS are absurd, mean-spirited and unfounded.

Sincerely,

Don DeHan, Chair,

City of SeaTac Transportation & Public Works (T&PW) Committee.

Mayor Hansen, on behalf of the Council, thanked Councilmember DeHan for the excellent rebuttal letter.

COUNCIL COMMENTS (Continued): Mayor Hansen gave a report on the South County Area Transportation Board (SCATBd) Meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee held today. The committee made the SR509 recommendations to be sent to the Regional Transportation Improvement District (RTID) Committee: \$9 million for SR509 is still in tact.

Councilmember Shape stated that SCATBd totally removed the \$50 million transit funding. Hopefully the RTID will approve it and it can go to the people for a vote in September. King County (KC) Councilmember Julia Patterson is on the RTID Board and also a member of the SR509 Executive Committee and appreciates the hard work of the local agencies.

Mayor Hansen stated that he, along with Deputy Mayor Anderson, and Councilmembers Brennan and Shape attended the KC Council Meeting held in the SeaTac City Hall Council Chambers on Monday, March 22, 2004. There was a large audience turnout for the meeting. The KC Council and staff were impressed with the SeaTac's new City Hall and its amenities, making their meeting run even smoother than expected. He was proud that they chose SeaTac to have their first South KC Committee Meeting.

Deputy Mayor Anderson added that she was disappointed that the KC Council did not address the fact that there are no cross-valley connectors with METRO Bus System for people who have human services needs in the valley area.

Councilmember Fisher stated that the Public Safety & Justice (PS&J) Committee held its meeting today. Chief Somers gave an excellent overview of Southend Cities' crimes, adding that this is part of a study being conducted on the Police Department. He stated the City owes the taxpayers the right to know all the facts and figures on KC contracted and non-contracted police officers and staff. When the study is completed, it will be reviewed by Council.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOVED BY ANDERSON SECONDED BY DEHAN TO ADJOURN THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SEATAC CITY COUNCIL AT 8:13 PM.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Frank Hansen, Mayor

Judith L. Cary, City Clerk